

file

13 June 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: NIE 85-2-60: THE SITUATION IN CUBA

1. NIE 85-2-60 was to have been the second and more detailed part of a two-part exercise on Communism in Cuba. The first was SNIE 85-60, "Communist Influence in Cuba", 22 March 1960. The 5 April meeting of the USIB approved a proposal that the forthcoming estimate on Cuba should be a reassessment of the entire situation rather than one devoted wholly to the communist aspect. (USIB D-14.1/7, 5 April 60)

2. The only reservation is on the part of three of the service representatives and relates to the first sentence of paragraph 7 ("We continue to believe that Fidel Castro is not himself a Communist and that he would reject any evident attempt by the USSR, or the local Communist Party or local Communists to dictate the course of his revolution.") and the variation on that sentence in Conclusion D. Air and Joint Staff do not want to state that Fidel Castro is not a Communist or

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that he is; their feeling is that the evidence is insufficient to justify any statement. Army is worried about the sentence but was not clear just why. Navy indicated that it might join the other services in the reservation. State firmly supports the sentence as is.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:

ROBERT SMITH
Acting Chairman